ABSTRACT

The invention provides a drug for treating hepatic diseases with the use of hollow protein nanoparticles. The effectiveness of the drug has been proved by animal testing. The invention also provides a therapeutic method using such a drug. In a drug according to the present invention, a substance to be transferred into a cell for treating a hepatic disease (for example, a cancer treating gene such as a thymidine kinase gene derived from simple herpes virus) is encapsulated in hollow nanoparticles that have an ability to recognize a hepatocyte and are composed of a particle-forming protein (for example, hepatitis B virus surface-antigen protein).